

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the recitation of claim 2, omitting the recitation that X' in formula (A') may represent a structure of formula (X1). Claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form. No new matter has been added, and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1 and 3-5 will be pending.

In Paragraph No. 4 of the Action, claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Oshima (EP 1 176 467 A1).

Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn because Oshima EP '467 does not disclose or render obvious the heat-sensitive lithographic printing plate precursor of the present invention.

In the present Amendment, claim 2 has been incorporated into claim 1, and the recitation that X' in formula (A') may represent a structure of formula (X1) has been deleted. Applicants note that the repeating units PC-2 and PC-1 of Oshima relied upon by the Examiner were within the scope of formula (A') of original claim 2, where X' in formula (A') represented a structure of formula (X1) of claim 2. The present amendment, which omits from claim 1 the recitation that X' in formula (A') may represent a structure of formula (X1), clarifies the difference between the present invention and Oshima.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 1-4 based on Oshima EP '467 are respectfully requested.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/743,441

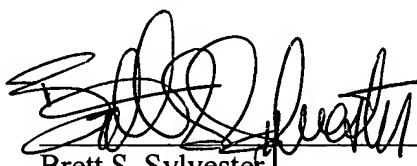
In Paragraph No. 5 of the Action, claim 5 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants note with appreciation that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

As noted above, claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, this objection should be overcome.

Allowance is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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